

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE

SUBJECT: US-GDR RELATIONS: AUGUST 29 PRESS BRIEFING

FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT PORTIONS OF PRESS BRIEFING

AUGUST 29 BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT ANDERSON ON

US-GDR SITUATION:

Q. ARE THE EAST GERMANS COMING NEXT WEEK?

A. YES, THEY ARE, AND I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU
DETAILS ON THIS TOMORROW.

Q. WHY ARE THEY COMING? DID YOU INVITE THEM?

A. ON BACKGROUND YES. THEY'RE INVITED. THEY'LL BE HERE,
I THINK IT'S NEXT WEDNESDAY--NO, ON THE 2ND THEY'LL BE
HERE, ON MONDAY. AND I HOPE MAYBE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS
AFTER THAT THEN WE WILL MOVE FORWARD ON THE QUESTION OF
ESTABLISHING RELATIONS.

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Q. AND YOU ASKED THEM TO COME BACK BECAUSE YOU ARE CONVINCED NOW THAT THESE HARASSMENTS AND WHAT HAVE YOU STOPPED?

A. YES, THERE HAS BEEN NO HARASSMENT FOR QUITE SOME TIME. BUT I REALLY WOULD PREFER TO WAIT, IF YOU COULD, UNTIL TOMORROW ON GIVING YOU MORE DETAILS.

Q. THE STORY OUT OF BERLIN MENTIONED SEPTEMBER 4 AS THE DATE FOR POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THIS COUNTRY AND EAST GERMANY.

A. THAT WILL PROBABLY BE THE DATE. BUT HERE AGAIN I'M BOWING TO WISHES OF OTHERS AND THAT'S WHY I AM TALKING THE WAY I AM.

Q. SEPTEMBER 4 WILL BE THE DATE OF ESTABLISHING RELATIONS?

A. THERE WILL BE A DOCUMENT SIGNED ON THAT DATE, YES.

Q. BOB, WAS THIS ALL PREPARED FOR SIGNATURE PRIOR TO THEIR BEING ASKED TO LEAVE LAST TIME BECAUSE OF THE HARASSMENT? WERE ALL THE DETAILS FIGURED OUT BY THEN?

A. THE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WERE COMPLETED AND YOU CAN CHECK MY BRIEFINGS AT THAT TIME, AND IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE HARASSMENT THAT WE DECIDED THAT THIS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A GOOD TIME TO MOVE FORWARD.

END BACKGROUND.

A. AS FOR THE DOCUMENTS HAVING BEEN TYPED ETCETERA, AND ALL READY FOR SIGNATURE, I DON'T KNOW. BUT THE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN COMPLETED THEN.

Q. BOB, CAN YOU TELL US NOW--OR WHETHER YOU CAN TELL US NOW OR TOMORROW--WHETHER--THE QUESTION OF REPARATIONS ON THE PART OF THE EAST GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO THE VICTIMS OF THE NAZI HOLOCAUST--ARE AS PART OF THE AGENDA, PART OF THE AGREEMENT? IS THERE AN UNDERSTANDING? WHERE DO WE UNCLASSIFIED

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STAND ON THAT?

A. NO, IT IS NOT PART OF THE AGREEMENT. AND I THINK ON THIS, JOE, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO GO BACK, IF YOU WOULD, TO THE BRIEFINGS THAT I GAVE AT THE TIME, BECAUSE THIS QUESTION DID COME UP, AND I RESPONDED TO IT THEN WHEN IT WAS FRESHER IN MY MIND. KISSINGER

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